AH!
ORD LIBRARY
THE PERSON THAT'S COMING THIS WAY IS LIAM!
BAN
HE REMEMBERED MY 25TH BIRTHDAY, RIGHT?
HE WENT THROUGH THE TROUBLE TO COME SEE ME IN HIS CAR FROM SIDNEY TO GOSFORTH

HELLO, MOLLY.
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU WHILE YOU'RE WORKING.
ミスターX
MISTER X
なさおけ
NASAGASE
NAKAYAMA SALLA
中山紗良
原作／ミランダ・リー

THAT MEANS ...
THAT I'M YOUR BACK-UP
THE LIBRARY IS CLOSED NOW, RIGHT?
DON'T YOU WANT TO TAKE A RIDE WITH ME?
I WENT HOME TO SHOW IT OFF, BUT MY MOTHER WAS PLAYING GOLF.
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY NEW CAR?
I GOT HIM YESTERDAY
I COULDN'T GO BACK TO SIDNEY, SO I REMEMBERED YOU WERE HERE.
I CAN'T, IT'S AN IMPORTANT REST HOUR.
WE'RE ALL GOING TO CELEBRATE.
TODAY IS A SPECIAL DAY.
SPECIAL DAY?
YOU STILL DON'T REMEMBER?!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MOLLY!
WE FINISHED THE PREPARATIONS.
Happy Birthday
UH...
WILL YOU CELEBRATE WITH US?
THIS HANDSOME GUY HAS COME TO GREET YOU TOO?
I'M SORRY, MOLLY... TODAY IS YOUR BIRTHDAY, AGAIN I...
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THIS.
IT'S ALRIGHT, LIAM. I'M ALREADY USED TO IT.
Come on! In one blow!
HE DOESN'T CONSIDER ME
FOR HIM I'M JUST A GOOD FRIEND.
Fuuuuuu

LIAM DELANEY IS MY CHILDHOOD FRIEND FROM WHEN I WAS 5 YEARS OLD
'IDEA AND EFFECT' IS THE ENTERPRISE HE TOOK CARE OF, AND IT IS A GREAT SUCCESS
IT'S WEIRD FOR HIM TO COME HOME TWICE IN A ROW.
AND THAT MAKES ME REALLY SAD...
I KNOW,
ALL THIS TIME HAS BEEN IN VAIN
SINCE HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND MY FEELINGS
"NEITHER BEFORE NOR NOW, MY LOVE HASN'T CHANGED"
HE LIKES STUNNING AND SEXY WOMEN.
HE BRINGS A NEW ONE EVERY TIME I SEE HIM.
AND I'M OUT OF THE QUESTION.

THEN AFTER YOU HAVE DINNER WE'LL DRINK COFFEE AT NIGHT.
ON MY BIRTHDAY, I EAT AT HOME.
SORRY, MOLLY.
HOW ABOUT INVITING YOU TO DINER AS AN APOLOGY?
NO! HE'S JUST A CHILDHOOD FRIEND.
YOU WERE HIDING THAT YOU HAVE A HANDSOME BOYFRIEND.
BUT IT'S WRITTEN ALL OVER YOUR FACE.
BLUSH
ARGG !!
SEE YA!
I'LL PICK YOU UP AT 8...
WAIT, LIAM!

NOW I KNOW THE REASON WHY MOLLY HAS BEEN UNABLE TO GET A BOY-FRIEND.
YOU KNOW, JOAN, NOTHING HAPPENED BETWEEN US IN ALL THIS TIME.
AND NOTHING WILL HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE!
BESIDES, HE HAS A BEAUTI-FUL GIRLFRIEND NAME ROXY.
SHE'S A STUNNING WOMAN WITH ALL MEN FALLING AT HER FEET.
SO WHAT? YOU WON'T DO ANYTHING BUT LOOK?
IF YOU SAW THAT WOMAN YOU WOULDN'T SAY THAT.
I HATE BEING JEALOUS OF HER FOR BEING WITH HIM.

SAY MOLLY,
IT'S NECESSARY TO POLISH YOURSELF TO GET THE MAN YOU LIKE.
I DON'T WANT A MAN THAT DOESN'T LIKE ME FOR MYSELF.
REALLY ?!
DO YOU KNOW THAT EVEN THOUGH I'M MARRIED I HAVE TO WORK AS A WIFE?!
MOLLY, YOU ARE SLENDER, AND IF YOU PUT IN SOME EFFORT YOU WOULD BE EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL.
LET YOUR HAIR LOOSE, WEAR MAKE-UP AND SEXY CLOTHES
AND THE EYES OF A GUY WILL CHANGE.
THEY'LL THINK I'M OUT OF MY MIND.
BESIDES HE HAS A GIRL-FRIEND.
I WOULDN'T WANT TO COME BETWEEN THEM.

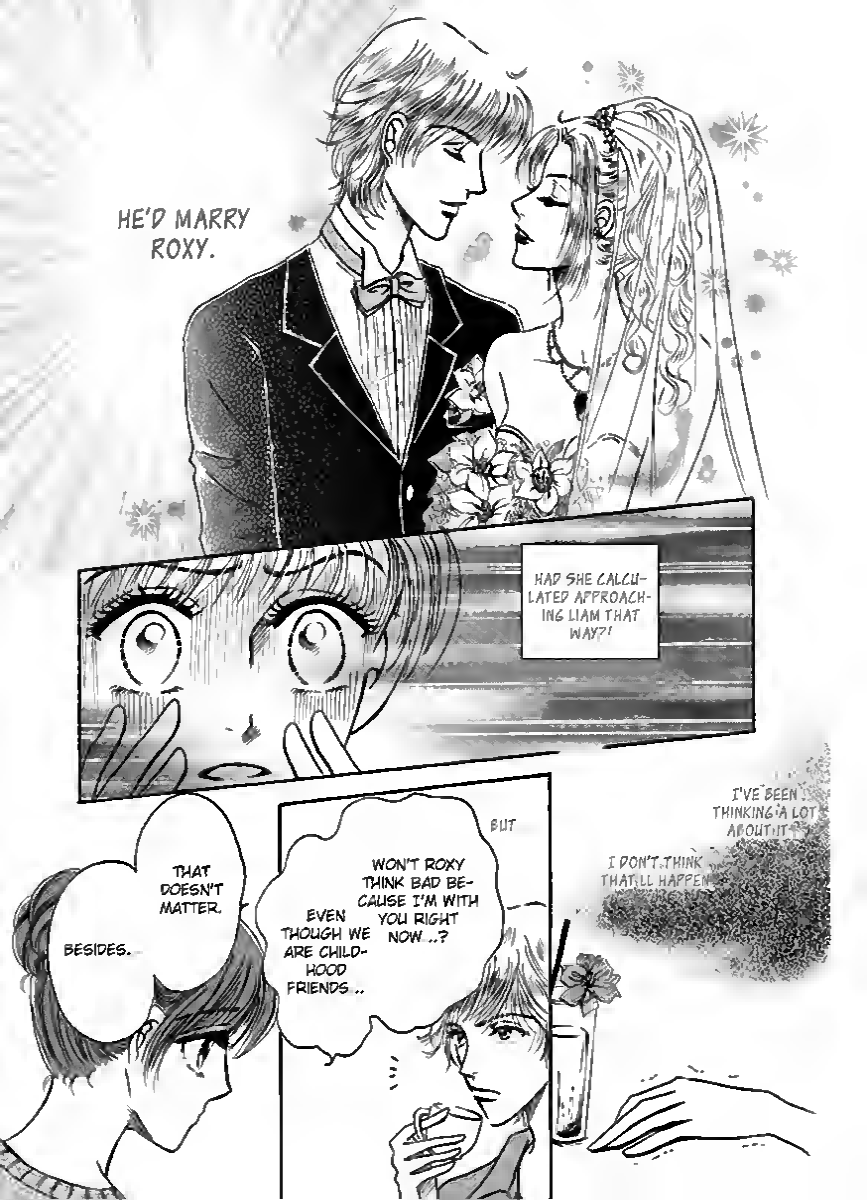
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE
FOR HIM TO LOVE ME...
THANKS FOR THE FOOD
YOU DON'T DO ANYTHING AND YOU'VE ALREADY GIVEN UP. I THINK YOU'RE STUPID
AH, I SEE.
I'M SCARED
FOR SOMETHING TO HAPPEN AND DESTROY OUR FRIENDSHIP.

I'M GOING OUT TO DRINK SOME TEA WITH LIAM
BUT IT'S NOT GOOD TO GO OUT AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT
IT'S STILL 8 O' CLOCK
I'LL COME BACK SOON BESIDES LIAM WILL TAKE ME HOM.
LIAM?
HE CAME BACK HOME?
YES, AND HE HAS A GORGEOUS GIRL-FRIEND
WELL, I'M LEAVING
THERE WAS NO NEED TO TELL HER
ON TOP OF THAT THE PROBLEM IS FROM FAR BEFORE
MY MOTHER THINKS IT'S BETTER NOT TO BE IN A RELATION-SHIP
SHE'S ALWAYS HAD A SHY PER-SONALITY BUT SHE BECAME SHYER AFTER MY FATHER'S DEATH
HE SECLUDED HERSELF IN THE IDEA THAT HER DAUGHTER WAS EVERYTHING

...SO IS LIAM BUT HE HAS A NATURAL CHARM THAT MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE NOT TO LIKE HIM
I'M DIFFERENT
ON TOP OF THAT HE'S NOT CONCEITED.
AS AN ILLUSTRATOR FOR BABY BOOKS SHE RAISED HER SON WELL AND WAS FULL OF LIFE
LIAM'S MOTHER IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT, EVEN THOUGH SHE ONLY HAS A SON.
A BORING AND SOUR WOMAN
I'M CLUMSY AND A LIBRARY RAT.
I HAVE NO VALUE FOR HIM
I'M ALSO CATALOGED AS
BITE
I HATE MYSELF!

I'M SORRY FOR THE DELAY,
BUT, I HOPE YOU LIKE THE PRESENT.
IT'S FOR ME?
THANK YOU.
I CHOSE IT WHILE THINKING OF YOU.
I DECIDED FOR SOMETHING SIMPLE AND STRONG LIKE YOU.
I'LL KEEP LIAM'S PRESENT AS A PRECIOUS TREASURE FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.
Trembl
SHOULD I FEEL HAPPY WITH THOSE WORDS?
HAVE YOU LOST WEIGHT THESE DAYS?

I KNEW A LOT ABOUT LIAM.
HE WAS EASILY PASSIONATE AND COLD IN SOME MOMENTS
BECAUSE OF THAT HE HAD NEVER BEEN WITH A WOMAN FOR LONG
HALF A YEAR...
THIS MORNING HIS MIND WAS FULL OF HIS NEW CAR
I DIDN'T NOTICE.
I LOST MORE WEIGHT THAN BEFORE!
HIS ATTENTION ONLY GOES TO ROXY
BESIDES, SINCE HALF A YEAR AGO,
HE SAID HE WOULDN'T GET MARRIED BEFORE HE WAS 30...
IT'S NOT POSSIBLE THAT...


HE'D MARRY ROXY.
HAD SHE CALCULATED APPROACHING LIAM THAT WAY?!
I'VE BEEN THINKING A LOT ABOUT IT.
I DON'T THINK THAT'LL HAPPEN.
BUT
WON'T ROXY THINK BAD BECAUSE I'M WITH YOU RIGHT NOW ..?
EVEN THOUGH WE ARE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS ..
THAT DOESN'T MATTER.
BESIDES..

WE'VE DECIDED TO TRY TO SEPARATE FOR A WHILE.
SEPARATE
HE MEANS THAT
HE CLEARLY SAID THAT.

Transient Mirage
MISTER X OSAGASE
PART A
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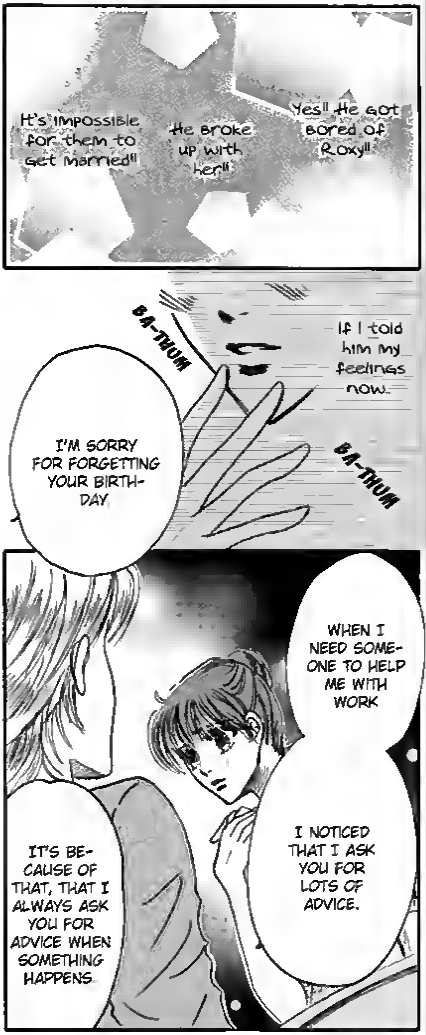

It's impossible for them to get married!!
He broke up with her!!
Yes!! He got bored of Roxy!!
BA-THUM
If I told him my feelings now...
BA-THUM
I'M SORRY FOR FORGETTING YOUR BIRTH-DAY.
WHEN I NEED SOME-ONE TO HELP ME WITH WORK
I NOTICED THAT I ASK YOU FOR LOTS OF ADVICE.
IT'S BE-CAUSE OF THAT, THAT I ALWAYS ASK YOU FOR ADVICE WHEN SOMETHING HAPPENS.
THEY ARE SEPARATED?

TONIGHT I WANT TO HEAR ABOUT YOU!!
WE'VE ALWAYS TALKED ABOUT ME
I MUST SAY I ONLY THINK OF YOU IN THOSE MOMENTS
FALL
STONE
DON'T YOU HAVE A BOY-FRIEND?
YOU'VE ALREADY REACHED 25, HAVEN'T YOU THOUGHT OF MARRIAGE?
YOU COULDN'T BE
.. MOLLY
This person doesn't understand my feelings.
I won't be able to confess...
SIGH
OH, GOD!
SFX BA-THUM

SPLURT!
LESBIAN?
WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?
AM I WRONG?
OF COURSE
laughs
laughs
What should I say?
It'd be embarrassing to tell him I don't have a boyfriend.
I HAVE SOMEONE I LIKE
I should lie, a bit.
Even if it's half true.
BUT THAT PERSON DOESN'T LOVE ME
HE DOESN'T EVEN SEE ME AS A WOMAN.
He's in front of me.
HUUH?! He doesn't know the good in you?! Who's that idiot?!

DO I KNOW THE GUY?
I SUPPOSE YOU DO.
DID HE STUDY AT OUR SCHOOL?
I WONDER.
He believed it
He has no interest in me
But it became fun.
I'VE GOTTEN USED TO HIM NOT HAVING AN INTEREST IN ME
BUT I ALWAYS THINK OF HIM.
HE'S GOOD AT HIS WORK, HE'S HANDSOME AND THEY FIGHT OVER HIM.
I THINK I'D DO ANYTHING FOR HIM
...IT WOULDN'T BE DENNIS TAYLOR, RIGHT?

YOU HAVE A LOT OF SECRETS.
I WON'T ANSWER.
THERE ARE LOTS OF THINGS YOU DON'T KNOW.
Dennis?!
That playboy?!
LOSING WEIGHT MADE YOU BEAUTIFUL.
MAYBE THAT "MISTER X" IS THE REASON.
Didn't he also compete with him in business? (even though Liam won last year)
He was the only person who could compete with Liam.
IS THERE NOTHING I CAN DO TO HELP YOU?
THANK YOU FOR THE COMPLIMENT.
BEAUTIFUL?! ME?!

...
Hearing that from Liam's mouth...
...WELL
TO BE PRETTIER
WHAT DO YOU THINK I SHOULD DO?
I DON'T KNOW
WHAT KIND OF GIRLS MISTER X LIKES...
LIAM ...

YOU SAID YOU'D LISTEN TO ME TONIGHT
ARE YOU GOING TO RUN WHEN I ASK YOU TO HELP ..?
UN
UNDER-STOOD. I UNDER-STAND NOW
IF YOU DESIRE MY OPINION
REALLY?!
HOW SHOULD I CHANGE?!
AH YES
SOME-THING THAT SUITS YOU
ABOUT THE LENGTH OF MY HAIR?
SHOULD IT BE SHORT, HALF LONG OR LONG?
IT WOULD BE BETTER TO HAVE IT SHORT,
SINCE YOU HAVE A BEAUTI-FUL NECK.
COLOR OF THE HAIR?
YOU HAVE A WONDERFUL SKIN TO HIGH-LIGHT IT A COPPER LIKE COLOR WOULD BE GOOD.

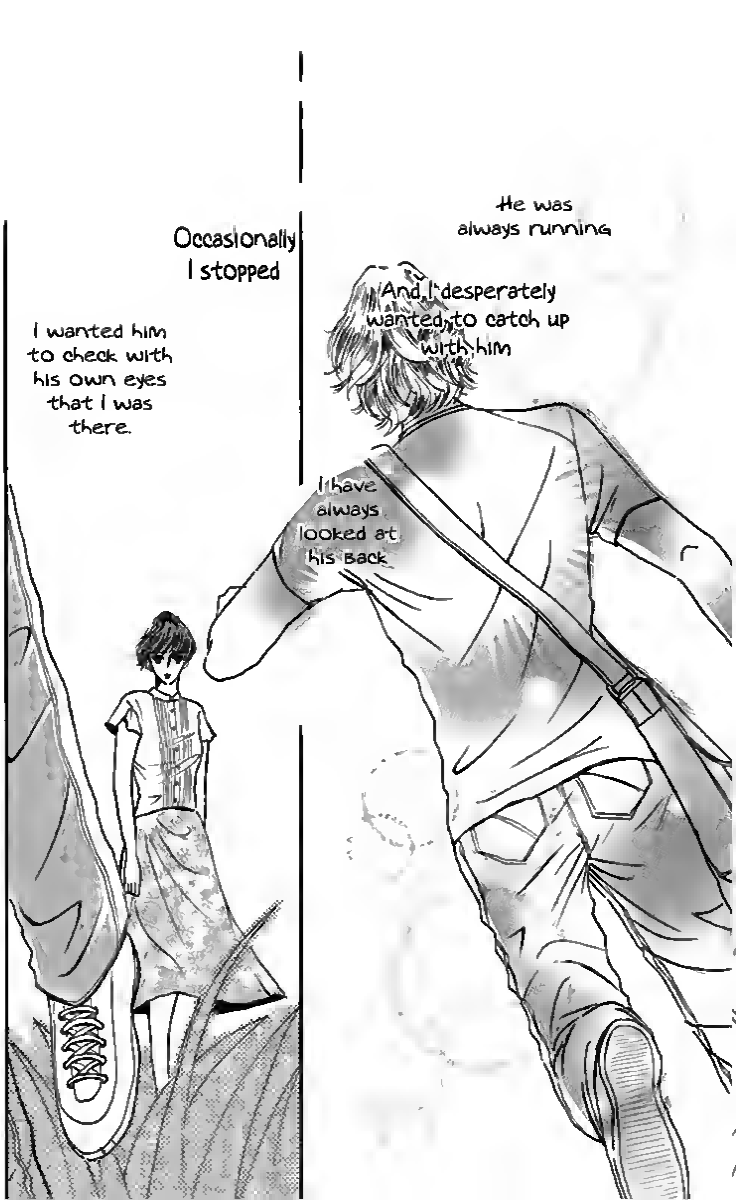
I would be in heaven if I became a beautiful person
AND THE CLOTHES?
WATCHING YOU, YOU'RE SMALL BUT SLENDER
YOU SHOULD USE SOMETHING TO HIGHLIGHT YOUR FIGURE
SOMETHING SEXY...
SOMETHING THAT HAS THE EFFECT TO INVITE A MAN.
YOU SAY INVITE ...
I've never gone out with anyone
SMILE
WHY ARE YOU EMBARRASSED?
HAVE YOU NEVER HAD ANY EXPERIENCE WITH A MAN?

I DON'T BELIEVE IT MOLLY
AND . . AND WHAT ABOUT IT?!
I DON'T THINK IT'S EMBARRASSING!
I'VE BEEN INVITED
BUT I THINK IT'D BE IMPOSSIBLE IF IT'S NOT WITH THAT SPECIAL PERSON
I HATE THAT!!
MISTER X
I HOPE HE WON'T HURT YOU
...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
COULD YOU BE BY MY SIDE AGAIN WHEN I NEED YOU?

OF COURSE.
YOU ARE MY BEST FRIEND.
I'LL ALWAYS HELP YOU.
WELL, LET'S GO BACK
Liam
If you say you're my friend you tie me down with hands and feet.
What I feel for you grows...
That's why I want to change.
To say goodbye to this awful figure.

I'LL SHOW YOU MY CHANGE.
MISTER X?!
WHAT WAS THAT!!
SHHH
IT HAPPENED BECAUSE OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES
Yes
BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT GUY IS STUPID
IT'S BECAUSE HE DOESN'T THINK OF ME AS A WOMAN.
LOOK LIAM!!
BUT FROM NOW ON HE WON'T DO IT!!
WHY ARE YOU SO EXCITED JOAN.

THANKS JOAN FOR HELPING ME.
THEY'LL TEACH YOU HOW TO WEAR MAKUP TOO
YOU CAN GO AFTER WORK
THE HAIR-DRESSING SALON THAT I TOLD YOU ABOUT
Liam walked me on the way to school and home.
while ago, to avoid me being harassed by guys.


He was always running
And, I desperately wanted to catch up with him
I have always looked at his back
Occasionally I stopped
I wanted him to check with his own eyes that I was there.

WE'RE FINISHED.
WHO'S THAT?
THAT'S ME RIGHT?!
IT WENT BETTER THAN I EXPECTED.
OF COURSE

IT'S LATE BE CARE-FUL ON YOUR WAY HOME.
YES!! DON'T WORRY.
THANK YOU, YOU'RE MY SAVIOR!
HOW EXAGGE-RATED SMILES
Ah! I want to show Liam quickly!
Where's the mall from a few moments ago?
I can't believe it
SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE HAVING FUN
BABY.

They can't be talking to me?
DON'T YOU WANT TO HAVE FUN WITH US?
If I run I'll be home in 10 minutes.
HEY HEY!
DON'T DO THAT!!
WHIMPER
Hoo
Hoo
SOMEONE HELP ME!!
NOT THAT SOMEONE
SFX: BRAKES!

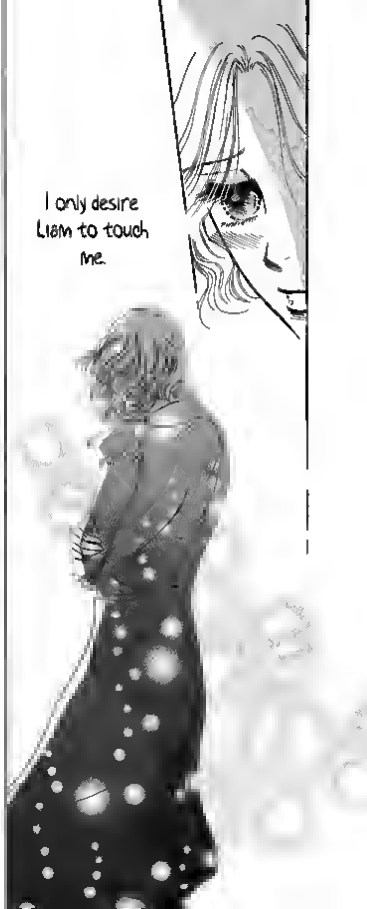
HEY THAT'S DANGEROUS!! THAT BA-STARD..
SFX: OPENS
WHO IS?
THREATENING
I.. I DON'T KNOW
CLOSES
BROOM
ARE YOU AL-RIGHT MISS?
Haa
YES ..
Haa

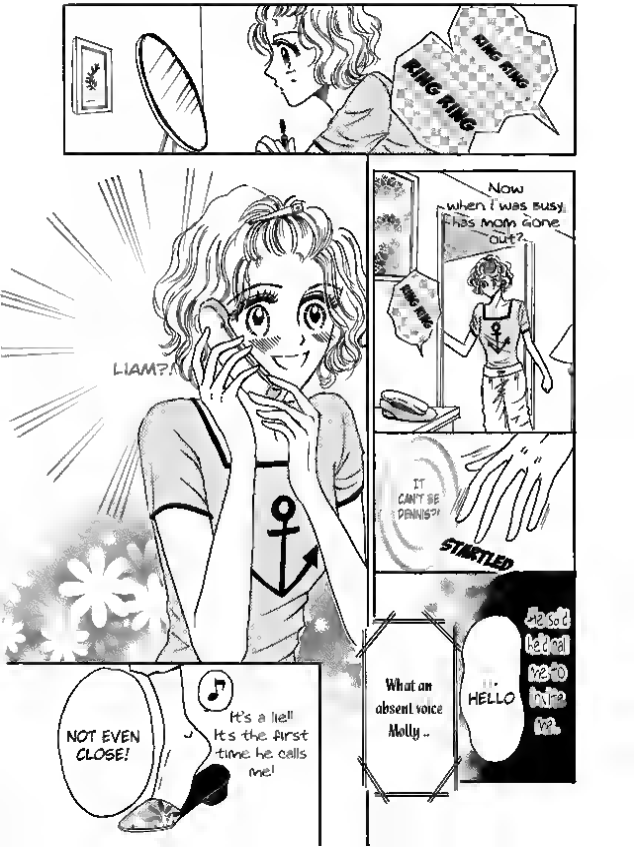
DENNIS TAYLOR!!
..? WHO ARE YOU MISS?
THANK YOU FOR HELPING ME, DENNIS.
I'M MOLLY MCGRAE.
MOLLY?! I WAS WONDERING WHERE THIS BEAUTY CAME FROM!!
IT'S REALLY DANGEROUS I'LL TAKE YOU.
C'MON GET IN.
THANKS.
He's good with words.
And it doesn't feel sad.

Can a person's behavior change this much when one transforms?
DO YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND?
WHERE DO YOU WORK?
HOW OLD ARE YOU?
AH, WHAT A PITY
WE'VE ALREADY REACHED YOUR PLACE
THANKS
HUGS

WON'T YOU HAVE A DRINK LATER?
I'M SORRY, BUT IT'LL HAVE TO BE ON ANOTHER OCCASION.
ALRIGHT, I'LL CALL YOU
SEE YOU
I felt angry for feeling good some moments.
That strong look

I have to put on more mascara
IT'S HARD TO PUT ON YOUR OWN MAKEUP


I only desire Liam to touch me.


RING RING
RING RING
Now when I was busy, has mom gone out?
RING RING
IT CAN'T BE DENNIS?!
STARTLED
HELLO
What an absent voice Molly..
LIAM?!
It's a lie!! It's the first time he calls me!
NOT EVEN CLOSE!

He finally noticed my existence!
Even though it's a pity I'm not Mister X.
He's asking me out!
The truth is I came home to help change some furniture.
what do you think of eating together?
I COULD HELP YOU WITH MOVING FURNITURE TOO.
I'M FREE AND I SPENT THIS WEEK CHANGING DECORATION.
Then I'll see you in 15 minutes!
PIIIII
So fast...
What should I wear...
I have nothing sexy!!
I'll have fun with his reaction!!
Changing?
NO NOTHING
HUH?!

ARE YOU GOING OUT WITH THOSE CLOTHES?
THIS SHOULD BE FINE.
MOTHER!!
LIAM INVITED ME OVER.
I'M GOING NEXT DOOR.
YOU WON'T GAIN ANYTHING BY DRESSING UP.
YOU WON'T COME EVEN CLOSE TO LIAM'S GIRLFRIEND'S BEAUTY
YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?

THAT MIGHT BE THE TRUTH
BUT I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING WRONG WITH ME EITHER
BESIDES, LIAM BROKE UP WITH HIS GIRLFRIEND.
I MIGHT NOT HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY.
BUT...
THAT'S NO EXCUSE TO DEPRESS ME!!

SFX: SLAM
MOLLY!
I knew her reaction when she saw me changed
I thought my mom would say I was pretty
But she shouldn't have been so mean.
I might not be reciprocated by Liam
But I wonder what he'll think when he sees me.
STEP
STEP
I'm sure he'll be surprised.
DON'T TELL ME THE NEW MOLLY
ALSO CHANGED PERSONALITIES?

Transient Mirage
MISTER X O SAGASE
PART B
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YOU REALLY DID IT.
LIAM!
IT SEEMS THAT I UNDER-ESTIMATED MISTER X'S POWER.
WHAT?
THAT'S SUCH A SOFT REACTION.

YES
HE SAID I WAS INCREDI-BLE
YOU SAID IT YOURSELF!
DID HE SEE YOU ALREADY?
BUT THERE'S NO TIME TO TALK ABOUT THIS!!
I NEED TO PRACTICE MY NEW WAY TO WEAR MAKEUP
WELL WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR, LET'S GO HELP!
HURRY UP, LIAM!
Y...YES!

WOMEN SEEM TO CHANGE THEIR PERSONALITIES ALONG WITH THEIR APPEARANCE.
HELLO MISS DELANEY
SORRY FOR THE INTRUSION
YOU LOOK GOOD LIKE ANOTHER PERSON
INCREDIBLE MOLLY! YOU MADE QUITE A CHANGE
KYA! I'M ANXIOUS WAITING FOR IT
AS THANKS FOR HELPING ME I'LL MAKE SOMETHING TASTY TO EAT
BUT MY INSIDE WON'T CHANGE.
I'M MYSELF.
ISN'T IT SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
BUT WHEN YOU LISTEN TO ROCK, YOU WANT TO WALK WITH HUGE STEPS
WHEN YOU LISTEN TO CLASSICAL MUSIC, YOU WALK ELEGANT.
I ONLY CHANGED MY MOOD

DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT ME?
AND WHAT ABOUT FORGETTING MY BIRTH-DAY?
MAYBE YOU DIDN'T REALIZE WHO I REALLY AM.
THE MOLLY I DON'T KNOW
INTRIGUES ME
ISN'T IT... LIKE THAT?
DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT ME?

BUT I CAN FINALLY REST NOW.
SO SHOULDN'T IT BE WEIRD TO BE INTER-ESTED IN YOU?
I'VE BEEN REALLY BUSY WITH MY WORK,
SO I HAVEN'T GOT THE TRANQUILITY THAT OTHERS HAVE
COME ON
DID YOU GET MAD AGAIN?
I'M NOT...

SINCE I'M RESPONSIBLE OF YOUR CHANGE,
I'M WORRIED MISTER X WILL SOON FALL ON HIS KNEES FOR YOU
MORE THAN INTERESTED, I'D SAY I'M WORRIED
WORRIED?
BUT THAT BASTARD SEES ONLY YOUR APPEARANCE
HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW YOU WERE BEFORE YOU CHANGED...
THEN, WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?
AH, I DON'T KNOW
I DON'T KNOW THIS MOLLY AT ALL...

Ahh
THANKS MISTER X!!
IT'S THE FIRST TIME HE GOT INTERESTED IN ME!!
LIAM IS UNEASY?
SINCE HE DIDN'T COMPLIMENT ME NOR DID HE LOOKED SURPRISED WHEN HE LOOKED AT ME
HE FINALLY STOPPED AND LOOKED BACK AT ME
WHEN I WAS OUT OF BREATH FOR PURSUING HIM
IT'S TRUE THAT MY MOTIVES HAVE BEEN BECAUSE OF MISTER X
WILL I HAVE ANY HOPE?
IS IT GOOD TO HAVE ANY HOPE?

BUT MY CHANGE ISN'T FOR HIM
I'M DOING IT FOR MYSELF
UNTIL NOW I'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING FOR MYSELF,
AND BECAUSE OF THAT I FELT UNHAPPY, DEPRESSED AND GAVE UP ON EVERYTHING
I NEEDED TO CHANGE
AND I NEEDED THE COURAGE TO MAKE THE FIRST STEP
IT WAS BECAUSE OF THAT I THOUGHT OF CHANGING
THAT WAS THE MAIN REASON

I ONLY WANTED TO SAY THAT
I'M SURE HE'LL HURT YOU
MISTER X WON'T BE A GOOD LOVER FOR YOU
OH, YEAH?
ARE YOU SAYING YOU WOULD BE A GOOD ONE?
HAVEN'T I HEARD RECENTLY YOU BROKE UP WITH YOUR GIRL-FRIEND?
I DIDN'T BREAK UP WITH HER
BROKE UP WITH MY GF?
I'M TALKING ABOUT ROXY
HUH?!

ROXY SAID WE SHOULD TRY TO SPEND A MONTH WITHOUT SEEING EACH OTHER
SHE GOT MAD BECAUSE SHE SAID I DIDN'T APPRECIATE HER ENOUGH
SINCE THEN WE HAVEN'T TALKED AT ALL
THE MONTH IS ALMOST OVER...
WHEN DOES IT END?
NEXT SUNDAY...

I'M WAITING FOR THAT DAY TO COME
I WANT TO SEE ROXY SOON
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I FEEL LIKE THIS.

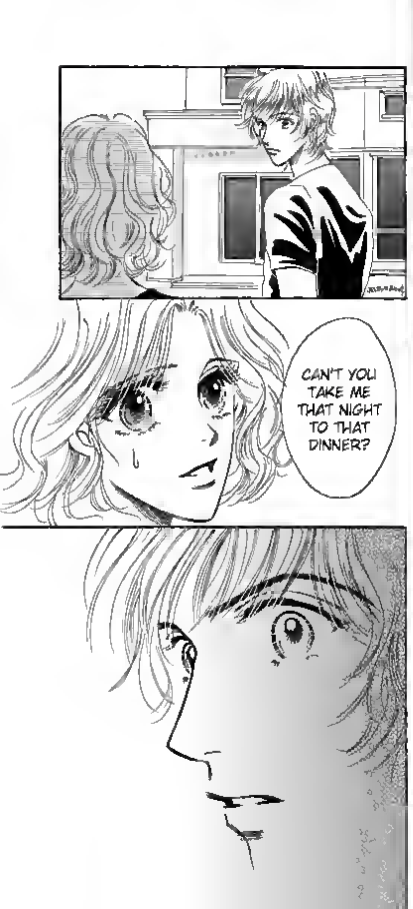
THIS ISN'T ME.
I ONLY HAVE TO TALK AND SMILE.
ITADA-KIMASU!
EAT ENOUGH.
YOU ARE IN A REALLY GOOD MOOD.
THE RED-DISH HAIR REALLY SUITS YOU.
WE NEED TO BE CAREFUL WHEN A BULL SEES RED.
THE PERSON THAT IS LIKE "TORO" IS...
OF COURSE, IT DOESN'T EXIST!
HIT
OUCH!
I FEEL THAT THE COLOR OF THE LANDSCAPE
HAS TURNED DARK?

HE WAS ONLY INTERESTED IN ME BECAUSE HE WAS BORED.
HE WAS ONLY YEARNING FOR ROXY.
IT'S SO FUNNY I FEEL LIKE CRYING...
I WAS STUPID FOR GETTING MY HOPES UP

THIS SATURDAY
THERE'S A DINNER FOR SOME WINNERS IN THE NIGHT
THEY ASKED ME TO GIVE A SPEECH.
WHEN WILL YOU COME BACK?
I SEE...
HE'LL BE HAPPILY WAITING FOR THE NEXT DAY TO MEET ROXY
LIAM WILL GO BACK TO ROXY'S SIDE...
MOLLY
THOSE LIPS WILL KISS ROXY...
AND THAT CHEST'LL

YOU'RE WEIRD, LIAM.
Smile
HE DOESN'T NEED TO DISCOVER
THE SADNESS IN MY HEART
WHY?
NO, NOTHING
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
SEE YOU LATER.
YES

AGAIN HE LEAVES ME BEHIND
LIKE BEFORE
AND HE WON'T LOOK BACK AT ME...


LIAM!!
CAN'T YOU TAKE ME THAT NIGHT TO THAT DINNER?

I'M INTERESTED IF YOU HAVE ANOTHER INVITATION
Y... YES
THERE'S A DRESS CODE, SO YOU'LL NEED A COCKTAIL DRESS
I'LL PICK YOU UP AT 8
IT'LL BE FUN
SEE YOU
I DON'T WANT TO LET ROXY HAVE HIM.
I CAN'T STAY HERE WITHOUT DOING ANYTHING
BUT HOW WILL I DO IT?
MOLLY, YOU FORGOT THIS.
AH... I'M SORRY...
I HEARD THAT YOU ARE GOING WITH LIAM TO THAT DINNER
YES.
THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO OPEN UP LIAM'S EYES.
MOLLY...

I THINK THIS TEMPORAL SEPARATION WAS DESIGNATED
TO FRUSTRATE LIAM AND MAKE HIM ASK HER TO MARRY HIM
HUH?!
BUT IF THEY GET MARRIED SHE'LL END UP MAKING HIM AN UNHAPPY MAN
BECAUSE SHE DOESN'T LOVE MY SON
DO YOU UNDERSTAND, MOLLY?
TO STEAL LIAM FROM ROXY,
YOU NEED TO BE BRAVE MOLLY.
WHAT LIAM LIKES IN WOMEN IS THEIR CONFIDENCE IN THEMSELVES.
HE'S SIMPLE AND CLUMSY, BUT I LOVE MY SON.

WHEN YOU LEARN TO LOVE YOURSELF AS A WOMAN
YOU'LL REALIZE WHAT YOU NEED TO DO
THAT'S RIGHT.
IF I'M BRAVE,
MAYBE I CAN MOVE LIAM'S HEART
LIAM IS MINE
I WON'T LET ROXY HAVE HIM
CLENCH
COME ON, MOLLY.
THERE'S NO TIME TO LOSE.
I'LL BET EVERYTHING IN THAT NIGHTS DINER!!

ANYWAY, WE NEED TO CHOSE AN APPRO-PRIATE DRESS TO TEMPT HIM
THEN DID YOU MAKE YOUR BUDGET?
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU WANT TO GO, JOAN
BLACK FITTING? RED SATIN? OR AS A SURPRISE SOMETHING BLACK?
AH!
NO?! NO?!
IT'S SO EXCITING!
REALLITY IS AWFUL...
I HAVE NO MORE THAN 50 DOLLAR

AH... I WON'T BE ABLE TO BUY A DRESS FOR LIAM'S PARTY
HMM..
ALL MY SAVINGS WERE GONE WITH THE HAIRDRESSING AND MAKE UP
I ALREADY SPEND MY LOAN
AH...
MOTHER
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR YOUR SCOLDINGS
PLEASE CAN YOU LEAVE ME ALONE
IF YOU CAN'T I

HERE ARE 500 DOLLARS.
BUY A DRESS WITH IT.
USE A DRESS THAT'LL MAKE LIAM SPEECHLESS
MOTHER ?
I SAVED THE MONEY TO USE IT ON SOME-THING IMPORT-ANT
BUT...
DON'T REJECT IT MOLLY

I'M A FAILURE AS A MOTHER, I WAS DESTROYING MY DAUGHTERS HAPPINESS
I'VE SAID HORRIBLE THINGS THAT HURT YOU
I WAS SCARED
I SAW YOU BECOMING MORE AND MORE BEAUTIFUL AND THOUGHT THAT YOU WERE MOVING AWAY FROM ME
AND THAT YOU'D END UP LEAVING ME ALONE
I APOLOGIZE FOR BEING A BURDEN
I'LL START SEARCHING FOR A JOB FOR A LIVING..
MOTHER
I NEED TO BE ABLE TO SUPPORT MYSELF
BUT I REALIZED I HAD TO CHANGE TOO
IT'S TIME TO BE INDEPENDENT TOO

I'D LIKE TO HAVE MOLLY'S LUCK.
MAYBE I SHOULD PAINT MY HAIR BLONDE.
REALLY!!
MOTHER,
DON'T CONDEMN YOURSELF
WHEREVER YOU ARE I'LL BE THERE
THAT'S WHY YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY.
NOTHING WILL CHANGE THE FACT THAT I'M YOUR DAUGHTER.
YOU'LL ALWAYS BE MY MOTHER.

MY MOTHER, JOAN, AND LIAM'S MOTHER
ARE MY FRIENDS THAT PUSH ME, WISHING FOR MY HAPPINESS
I BELIEVE IN MYSELF
IF I YEARN FOR IT STRONGLY MY WISH WILL COME TRUE
AND A MIRACLE WILL HAPPEN
BECAUSE THIS IS MY LAST OPPORTUNITY TO GET LIAM.
LOOK MOTHER, QUICKLY!!

HOW DO I LOOK?
YOU LOOK GORGEOUS!
REALLY GOOD, MOLLY
MAKE LIAM THINK YOU'RE NOT A WOMAN EASY TO GET.
MEN LIKE TO PUT SOME EFFORTS IN IT

I'M NOT THINKING OF GETTING WORRIED EVEN IF YOU DON'T COME HOME TONIGHT
MOTHER
THAT MY SHY MOTHER WOULD TELL ME TO ACT LIKE A VAMPIRE
WELL..? I'LL PUT SOME MAGIC ON MYSELF
I DON'T WANT LIAM TO LEAVE ME NOW THAT I'M PRETTY
I WANT HIM TO HOLD ME GENTLY WITHIN HIS ARMS
AND SAY I LOVE YOU "MOLLY"

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO STOP THE TIME BOMB NOW.
I'LL ENJOY WATCHING HIS REACTION WHEN HE SEES ME
DING DONG
THIS NIGHT IS THE TIME LIMIT.
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WAIT
OPENS

HE LOOKED BETTER IN NORMAL CLOTHES

I MISSED LIAM'S REACTION BECAUSE I WAS TOO BUSY LOOKING AT HIM!
NO THIS NIGHT WAS CREATED FOR LIAM TO BE MINE
I NEED TO DO SOMETHING
GOOD EVENING...
DEAR GOD... IS THAT A DRESS WHAT YOU'RE WEARING?
DOES IT LOOK LIKE UNDERWEAR?
I WONDER WHICH IT'D BE...
WILL LIAM THINK I'M SENSUAL?
NO WHAT I MEAN IS
THAT I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU WITH THESE LOOKS
IS THAT A COMPLIMENT
OR AN INSULT?
SWINGS

THAT'S WHY YOU WANTED TO GO TO GET ATTENTION OF MEN?
YOU THINK I'LL PROVOKE RAVAGES WITHIN THE GENTLEMEN AT THE PARTY?
YOU'LL BE DEVOURED BY HUNGRY MEN
MISTER X?
Ba-thump
WHAT YOU SAY IS MEAN
IN REALITY I'M ONLY INTERESTED IN ONE MAN

IMPOS-SIBLE!! ABSURD !!
WE BETTER GET GOING QUICKLY
IT'S GETTING HARD TO CONNECT EVERYTHING ABOUT MISTER X
I SEE NOW! DON'T TELL ME MISTER X WILL BE AT THE PARTY!!
THAT'S WHY YOU WANTED TO GO WITH ME!!
HE'S MOVING AWAY? LIAM...
I DIDN'T MEAN TO STIR HIM UP
Step
Step
Let's go
HUGS
!!

KYA!
AND...I'M NOT USED TO THIS KIND OF CLOTHES...
I NEED TO BE AREFUL WHEN I MOVE.
DRESS REVEALS A LOT
COME ON, GET IN.
opens

YOU ARE PROVOCATIVE TONIGHT.
SFX BA-THUMP
SFX BA-THUMP

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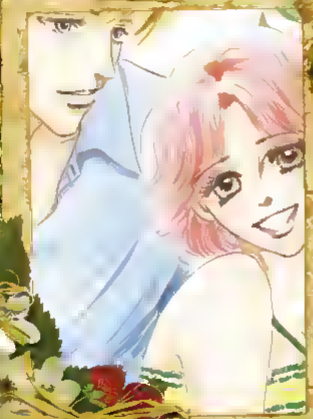

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I'M HAPPY
TO MAKE LIAM YOURS
DON'T FLINCH
ba-thump
ba-thump
YOU HAVE ALREADY DECIDED HOW YOU WOULD ACT TONIGHT
YOU THINK THAT WAY

SFX: PUSH
WAS HE JEALOUS
IT'S NOT ME
YOU WANTED TO KISS
SLAM
LIAM...

TO UPSET LIAM'S FEELINGS
I'M NOT CLOSE TO HIM
I DON'T LIKE HIM
I FEEL NUMB FROM THE HEAT HE IS EMITTING
SUFFOCATED ME
BA-THUMP
I'D SAY MINE ARE LIKE THAT
THAT DESIRE IN HIS EYES
BLACK AGGRESSIVE

ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
KYAA ..
I'M GOING TO SEDUCE HIM TONIGHT
I'M SORRY LIAM
I GUESS IT'S YOU WHO WILL AWARD ME MY PRIZE TONIGHT
TO THINK I ALMOST KILLED YOU
BASTARD!!
IF YOU DRIVE LIKE THAT I WILL CALL THE POLICE!!

THIS IS GOOD LUCK!
HUH? WHAT HAPPENED WITH THAT BLONDE?
HUH?
DENNIS!!
YOU CAME WITH MOLLY?
SHE FELT SICK SO I HAD TO SUB-TITLITE HER.
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS
SO THIS IS NOT A DATE.
I FEEL RE-LIEVED..
EVEN SO MOLLY.
TONIGHT YOU LOOK BETTER THAN LAST TIME.

WOULD YOU COME WITH ME AFTER DINNER?
I'LL BE THE ONE TO TAKE HER HOME.
IT'S MY DUTY TO TAKE HER HOME SAFE AND SOUND.
DAMN YOU.
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE SO OLD FASHIONED
Hmph
SEE YOU LATER MOLLY.
GRAB
Vr ooorm

WHEN DID YOU SEE DENNIS?
LAST FRIDAY
IT WAS A COINCIDENCE AFTER I CAME BACK FROM THE HAIR-DRESSER
AND?
HE TOLD YOU THAT YOU LOOKED GREAT DIDN'T HE?
AND WHAT?
MAYBE?
AS I THOUGHT DENNIS IS MISTER X!!
I DIDN'T!
YOU KNEW HE WOULD BE HERE TONIGHT DIDN'T YOU?
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT DENNIS WILL TRY TO SEDUCE YOU.
MAYBE HE WILL MAKE YOUR WISH COME TRUE.
WASN'T IT YOUR DREAM TO GIVE YOUR VIRGINITY TO MISTER X?

I'VE KNOWN THAT GUY FOR A LONG TIME NOW.
I WOULD NOT TRUST HIM EVEN IF HE WAS A GRANNY..
BESIDES, YOU WILL BE EATEN BY THAT MAN IF YOU GIVE HIM A RADIANT LOOK.
I'LL IGNORE YOU IF I SEE YOU CRY!!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? DENNIS ISN'T MISTER X?
AND WHAT DOES IT MATTER TO YOU?
WHAT ARE YOU, MY NANNY?!
YOU'RE JUST ANNOYED WITH DENNIS.
AS A FRIEND.
I'M ADVISING YOU SO YOU DON'T GET HURT.
I WON'T LIE TO YOU SAYING THAT HE IS A GOOD GUY.

I'VE DECIDED TO DO IT TONIGHT!
I DON'T EXPECT HIM TO LOVE ME!!
I JUST WANT HIM TO DO IT WITH ME!!
I WANT TO END THAT RELATIONSHIP!!!
WHAT I DO IS MY BUSINESS ISN'T IT?
WH... WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
IT'S JUST...

THE FACT IS THAT MISTER X HAS NEVER NOTICED ME!!
THAT'S WHY I WANT TO THROW AWAY MY OLD SELF!
IN THE PAST, THE PRESENT, AND IN THE FUTURE IT WILL BE THE SAME!
TO BE ABLE TO BE WITH DENNIS OR WITH ANYONE! LEAVE ME ALONE!
WHY DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?!
ALL I WANT IS FOR YOU TO LOVE ME.
MOLLY!!
STEP

GRABS
WAIT.
LET GO OF ME!!
LET GO
IT HURTS ...
PULLS
IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE IF IT WASN'T YOU!!
MOLLY!!

ммм...
...ш
на
на

IF YOU WANT TO SLEEP WITH A GUY THAT BADLY
DO IT WITH ME
BECAUSE I'M LOSING MY MIND TOO.

I'LL BE ONE WITH HIM IN BODY AND SOUL
I WOULDN'T CALL IT A UNION

THEY HAVE BODILY DESIRES LIKE MALES,
HE WON'T DO IT BECAUSE HE LOVES ME...
I'M THE SAME
I SELFISHLY WANTED LIAM TO BE MINE BUT,
WITHOUT CONSIDERING HIS FEELINGS...
TO PREVENT HIM TO GO BACK TO ROXY,

THEN WE PRESENT LAST YEAR ENTERPRISE WINNER
LIAM DELANEY TO GIVE A SPEECH
HIS HEART CAN'T CHANGE IN A COUPLE OF DAYS
BESIDES EVEN THOUGH MY APPEARANCE CHANGED, I'M THE SAME INSIDE
HE DIDN'T LOOK AT ME AS A WOMAN, AND I'M STILL MOLLY FOR HIM
AND THIS YEAR'S WINNER IS—

AND YET I WANT HIM.

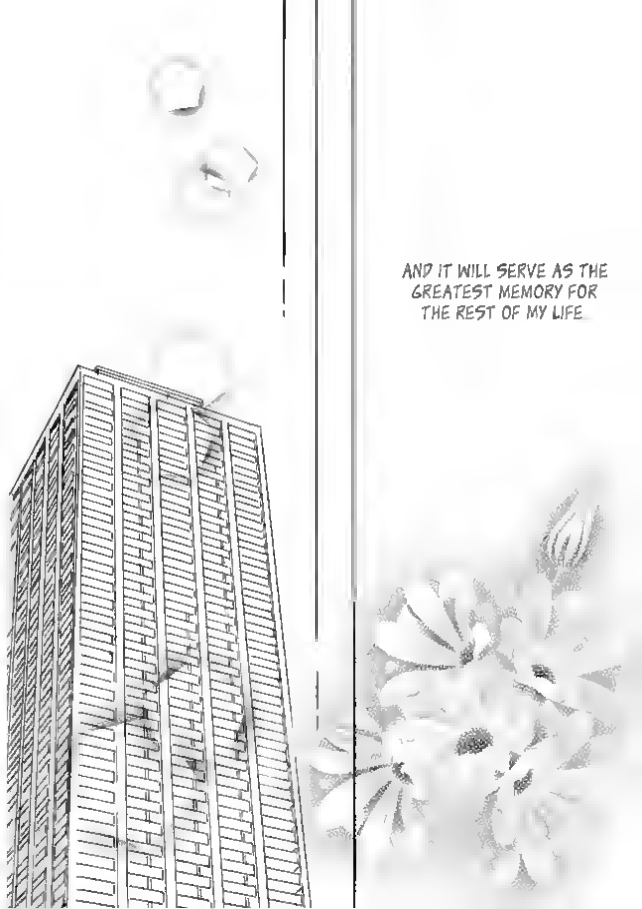
THIS IS MY APARTMENT
I RECENTLY MOVED HERE LAST WEEK
BECAUSE I'VE ALWAYS LOVED HIM
WISDOM DOESN'T MATTER BECAUSE
I ONLY WANT TO BE IN HIS ARMS

I DIDN'T DO IT TO SHOW MY NEW APPEARANCE
COME, MOLLY

EVEN IF WORDS MIGHT NOT BE NECESSARY,
I WANT TO SHOW HIM ALL OF MY LOVE
SEX FALLS

AND THAT WAY I WON'T BECOME A
MOLLY ?
I'M ALRIGHT LIAM
PLEASE DON'T STOP

IT'S ALRIGHT.
RELAX.
LEAVE IT TO ME.
TONIGHT WILL BE THE FIRST AND THE LAST


AND IT WILL SERVE AS THE GREATEST MEMORY FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.

...
SFX: OPENS

HE'S NOT LOOKING THIS WAY
IN THE PAST,
WHEN HE DISLIKED SOMEHING
HE'D FROWN AND LOOK AWAY FROM ME.

I KNEW I'D ONLY BE WITH HIM FOR ONE NIGHT,

AND THAT I WOULDN'T GET HIS HEART

I ALREADY PREPARED MYSELF FOR THIS

BUT THIS WOULD COMPENSATE FOR IT THE REST OF MY LIFE.

SEE YOU LATER LIAM
I'LL GO HOME BY MYSELF
OPENS
WE FINALLY SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN, MY DEAR
FLUTTERS
HASN'T THIS MONTH BEEN LONG?

HUH?
ROXY!!
HOW BEAUTIFUL
SHE'S LIKE A SCULPTURE
LIAM...

FOR ME IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME WITHOUT SEEING YOU.
AND HOW DID YOU TEMPT HIM? IF IT'S LIAM THE
WITH YOUR VIRGINITY?
ENOUGH, ROXY
COME, LET'S NOT LOSE OUR TIME.
COULD THE HINDERING PERSON DISAPPEAR?
YES
I MIGHT BE A HINDER
BUT
EVEN IF I HAVE TO FIGHT.

UNTIL I HEAR LIAM'S ANSWER...
I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO RUN NOW...
I'M NOT THE ONE TO DECIDE IF I'M A HINDER OR NOT...
TIGHTENS
IT'S LIAM HIMSELF!!

OH, MY GOD
I SEE...
SO LIAM WILL CHOOSE HERE
COME ON, LIAM,
THE FUN WILL START NOW...
LET'S GO INTO THE ROOM.

LIAM
TO HAVE EVEN THE TINIEST OPPORTUNITY.
PLEASE DON'T GO WITH ROXY.
PLEASE, LIAM.
DON'T GO

... WAIT LIAM WHERE ARE ...?
MY DEAR,
HOW IMPA-TIENT!
SHH
I WON'T LET YOU INSULT HER!
THROWS
WE'RE DONE,
ROXY!!

SLAM
LIAM!
STOP JOKING ALREADY!
HIT HIT
sigh
ba-thump

UNTIL NOW I NEVER LOOKED AT A WOMAN...
YOU COULD SAY I WAS HAPPY WITH THEY GAVE ME...
BUT WITH YOU, I FELT YOUR LOVE
YOU TRUSTED ME WHEN YOU GAVE YOURSELF TO ME
I LIED WHEN TOLD YOU TO TRY TO SLEEP WITH ME...
I WANTED YOU SO MUCH, MOLLY...
THAT I COULDN'T BEAR IT!!

I WANT TO KNOW MORE THING THAT I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU.
NO MATTER WHAT WILL HAPPEN I WANT TO TRAP YOUR HEART.
I WON'T GIVE YOU TO MISTER X!!
FROM NOW ON, I WANT TO BE THE PERSON TO SHARE EVERY-THING WITH YOU.
AHHH LIAM...
I'VE ALWAYS WAITED FOR THOSE WORDS

EVEN IF THIS IS BECAUSE OF PASSION,
IT'S NOT REAL LOVE
FOR LIAM TO CONQUER ME,
HE'LL NEED TO PUT IN SOME EFFORT.
I CAN'T CRY
EVEN THOUGH LIAM IS EXCITED WITH ME...

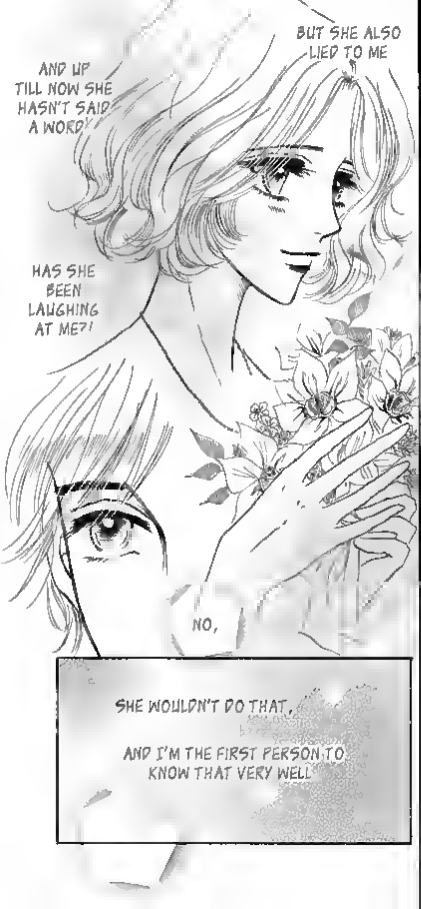
MEN DON'T VALUE
WHAT THEY GET EASILY.
THAT DEPENDS ON YOU, LIAM.
YOU'LL HAVE TO SHOW ME YOUR ABILITIES.

TEN MONTHS LATER.
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ENGAGEMENT!!
Congratulations!
THANKS.

I WONDER IF I'VE BEEN ABLE TO CONQUER MOLLY'S HEART
I'M SURE I'VE WORKED SO HARD TO BE SO
I HEARD THE WORDS "I LOVE YOU" FROM HER LIPS
DURING THE TRIP WHEN I GAVE HER THE PRESENT
AND THAT WAS JUST WHEN I PROPOSED HER
SHE LOOKED REALLY HAPPY

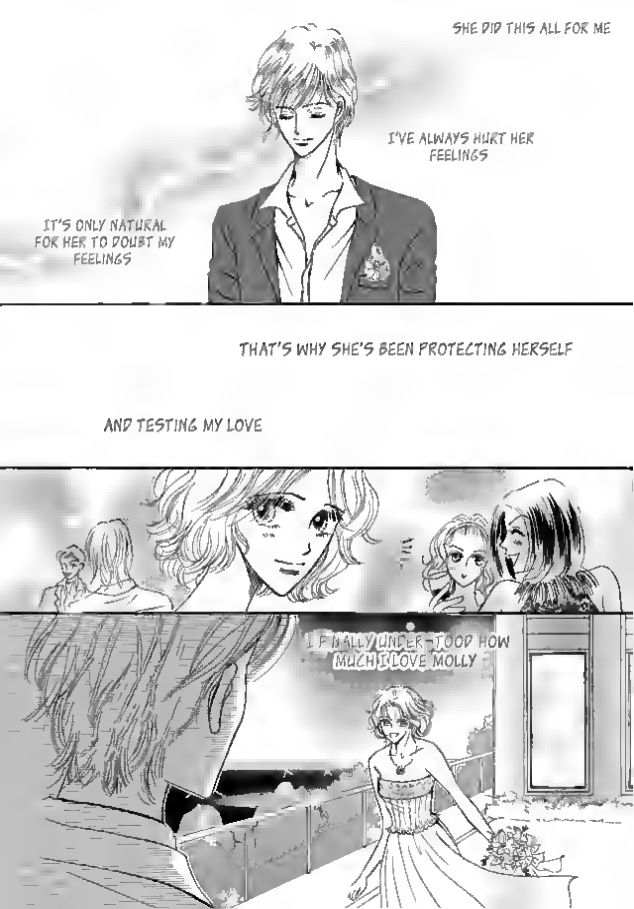
I'm sure you can
tell you work
hard here
IT'S AN HONOR TO MEET YOU AGAIN AT THIS ENGAGEMENT PARTY.
YOU HAVE A NICE HOUSE
THANKS
AHHH, I'M JEALOUS OF MOLLY
SHE'S SO LUCKY THAT SHE GETS TO MARRY HER FIRST LOVE.
FIRST LOVE?
SHE'S A GOOD GIRL
I HOPE YOU MAKE HER HAPPY
Psst

TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER,
MISTER X...
I AM MISTER X?!
LET ME TH INK
IT CAN'T BE


BUT SHE ALSO LIED TO ME
AND UP TILL NOW SHE HASN'T SAID A WORD!!
HAS SHE BEEN LAUGHING AT ME?!
NO,
SHE WOULDN'T DO THAT,
AND I'M THE FIRST PERSON TO KNOW THAT VERY WELL

THEN THAT MEANS THAT MOLLY

ALWAYS LOVED ME?!


SHE DID THIS ALL FOR ME
I'VE ALWAYS HURT HER FEELINGS
IT'S ONLY NATURAL FOR HER TO DOUBT MY FEELINGS
THAT'S WHY SHE'S BEEN PROTECTING HERSELF
AND TESTING MY LOVE
!!!
I FINALLY UNDERSTOOD HOW MUCH I LOVE MOLLY

LIAM.
IT'S BECAUSE SHE LOVES ME DEEPLY
I FELT IT UNCONSCIOUSLY.
THAT SHE LOVES ME A LOT.

I'VE HEARD THAT MANY TIMES
YOU LOOK REALLY PRETTY TODAY.
I'LL HAVE TO DO A LOT OF STUFF TO MAKE HER FEEL SECURE
AH, YES! LET'S GO TO YOUR ROOM.
THEY WON'T CARE.
SO NO ONE BOTHERS US.
BUT THIS IS OUR OWN PARTY
YOU THINK WE COULD ESCAPE FROM HERE FOR A WHILE?

I WANT US TO BE ALONE...
CHU
TO QUICKLY HAVE A BABY
DON'T YOU THINK SO TOO?
OF COURSE!!
OF COURSE, LIAM.

MISTER X WO SAGASE
THE END

●あとがき●

「ミスターXをさがせ」は大好きな作品です！
リアムに振り向いてもらおうと、迷ったり戸惑ったりしながらも一生懸命ふるまうモリーの健気さがめちゃ可愛いです。
そんなモリーの気持ちにまったく気づかないリアムの鈍感さにツッコミを入れたくなりますが、ハンサム人間にありがちな自惚れ過剰なトコロは全然なかったりする点で好感度UP。

ラストシーンには感動！
モリーを傷つけまいと彼女の瞳を責めることもなく、自分の胸の内にしまい込んで大きな心でモリーに接するリアムってなんてイイ奴〜〜！
すごく好きなキャラクターです。ハーレクイン作品には珍しいタイプの男性かも。
モリーの友人ジョーンやロキシーも描いてて楽しかったです。
登場人物すべてに愛着ありまくりの素敵な作品が描けてホント幸せです。

原作では、ふたりのやりとりが楽しくて面白くって。
ど〜〜なるの!? とハラハラドキドキしながら読んじゃいました。
もっと可愛いモリーと素敵なリアムをぜひ原作で楽しんでいただきたいです！

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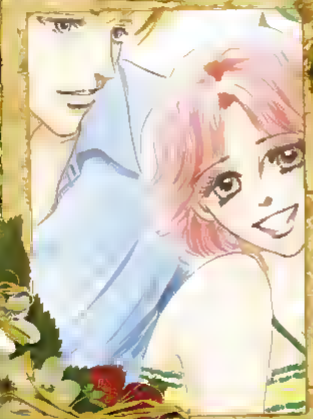

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MISTER X O SAGASE

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